

# Child Nutrition Weekly Update



March 2012 is

**National Nutrition Month!**



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## 2012-2013 Free and Reduced Price School Meal Application and Verification Forms Approval Procedures

All School Food Authorities (SFA) are required to submit their 2012-2013 Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application and Verification Forms packet to the State Agency for approval prior to printing and distributing to households. Local Education Agencies (LEA), Charter Schools, Non-Public/Private schools and Residential Child Care Institutions (RCCI) with day students MUST complete the pre-approval process before the annual Agreement to operate the Federally-funded Child Nutrition programs may be approved. The template forms will be sent in a future edition of the Child Nutrition Weekly Update.

### Training

Several webinars will be conducted on how to prepare the Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application and Verification forms packet for approval. In addition, the PowerPoint presentation used in the webinars will be posted to the Child Nutrition website to provide additional assistance, if needed, in completing the packet.

The following webinars have been scheduled:

Date: **March 27, 2012 (Tuesday)**

Time: **2:00 – 3:00 pm**

\*\*Who should attend: **Non-LEA Child Nutrition Administrators (Charters, NonPublic/Private, RCCIs)**

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER:** [March 27 F&R Application & Verification Form Packet Webinar](#)

Date: **March 28, 2012 (Wednesday)**

Time: **9:00 – 10:00 am**

\*\*Who should attend: **LEA Child Nutrition Administrators Using SCAN Applications**

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER:** [March 28 F&R Application & Verification Form Packet Webinar](#)

Date: **March 29, 2012 (Thursday)**

Time: **2:00 – 3:00 pm**

\*\*Who should attend: **LEA Child Nutrition Administrators Using NON-SCAN Applications**

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER:** [March 29 F&R Application & Verification Form Packet Webinar](#)

Date: **April 17, 2012**

Time: **10:00 – 11:00 am**

\*\*Who should attend: **Anyone**

Registration: **TBA**

## Vote for Wake County Student in Uncle Ben's Contest



Sydney McCoy, a fifth grader at Baucom Elementary School in Apex, NC (Wake County) is an aspiring celebrity cook. She loves to cook and be in front of the camera. Her resumé includes cooking with Bobby Flay, Walter Royal of the Angus Barn and she recently went to New York to cook with Rachael Ray!

Sydney has entered a contest sponsored by Uncle Ben's Rice for a \$50K makeover for her school cafeteria, which is 46 years old, and she needs your votes. Please take a few minutes to enjoy her video at the following link and vote:

[https://www.facebook.com/unclebens?sk=app\\_357560190924548&app\\_data=video37347438](https://www.facebook.com/unclebens?sk=app_357560190924548&app_data=video37347438) or go to the Uncle Ben's web site, click on the vote button and look for Sydney's Tropical Rice Salad or search Sydney. You can vote for her once a day from thru **March 11, 2012**.

Spread the word and support a North Carolina student. Vote for Sydney McCoy; she is definitely a young lady to watch!

## Registered Dietitian Day

Wednesday, **March 14, 2012** is Registered Dietitian Day! Plan to take time recognize the RDs that you know and work with. For more information about **Registered Dietitian Day** click on the link below:



## Registered Dietitian Day

When: **March 14, 2012**

Website: <http://www.eatright.org/NNM/content.aspx?id=5189>

## Funding Opportunity for Innovative School Breakfast Programs

The Healthy Breakfast 4 Kids Grant Program has been announced. This Grant Program combines the efforts of the Food Family Farming Foundation (F3) and the WalMart Foundation to provide 117, \$2500 equipment grants to rural high needs schools for the purpose of implementing universal breakfast in the classroom programs. Grant awardees will be able to order \$2500 worth of food service small wares or equipment for establishing universal breakfast programs. The deadline to apply is: **March 31, 2011**

<http://www.foodfamilyfarming.org/html/grants.html> .

This is a great opportunity to expand your existing breakfast in the classroom initiatives or to start a new breakfast in the program initiative if you have not already done so!

## Breakfast is Brain Fuel Tool Kit

A link to the *Breakfast is Brain Fuel* toolkit for School Breakfast which is located on the DHHS Nutrition Services website is available on the Child Nutrition website. The link to the School Breakfast Program page is: <http://childnutrition.ncpublicschools.gov/programs/sbp>

The *Breakfast is Brain Fuel* toolkit, from the N.C. Nutrition Education and Training (NET) Program, is designed to help Child Nutrition Programs to:



- Educate students about the importance and benefits of breakfast
- Encourage students to eat breakfast
- Gain support from school administrators, teachers and other staff for school breakfast
- Encourage students and families to take advantage of school breakfast
- Support the health and academic success of students and the needs of the school administration, staff and families

The toolkit was developed with input from principals, teachers, Child Nutrition staff, school nurses, families, and students. The toolkit includes how-to, educational and promotional resources.

*Breakfast is Brain Fuel* toolkit resources can be accessed from the N.C. Division of Public Health, Nutrition Services Branch Web site under Resources for Schools at:

<http://www.nutritionnc.com/ResourcesForSchools/index.htm> .

For questions regarding resources for schools, please do not hesitate to contact Tracey Bates, N.C. NET Program Coordinator, at [tracey.bates@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:tracey.bates@dhhs.nc.gov) or 919.707.5782.

## **2012 National Nutrition Month Handouts**

The 2012 National Nutrition Month® handouts, available in English and Spanish, offer tips and strategies for eating smart and moving more with a “fit kids = happy kids” theme. This year's national theme is Get Your Plate in Shape. You can find additional information about National Nutrition Month® at [www.eatright.org](http://www.eatright.org).

The handouts can be accessed from the N.C. Division of Public Health, Nutrition Services Branch website under Resources for Schools. From the link below, scroll down to National Nutrition Month® Handouts.

**<http://www.nutritionnc.com/ResourcesForSchools/index.htm>**

For questions regarding resources for schools, please do not hesitate to contact Tracey Bates, N.C. NET Program Coordinator, at [tracey.bates@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:tracey.bates@dhhs.nc.gov) or 919.707.5782.

## **Summer Feeding Options 2012**

The purpose of any summer feeding program is to feed the students during the summer months when school is out. The objective for Child Nutrition Programs in regard to summer feeding: to “break even” by being reimbursed (with Federal dollars), to cover food and operating costs. Summer feeding is not a money-making venture for Child Nutrition Programs. It is a much needed service provided to the community.

The options for NC Schools for summer feeding include:

**Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)** is monitored by Cynthia Ervin, SFSP Coordinator with the NC Department of Health and Human Services. She can be contacted by phone at 919-707-5774, or e-mail at [cynthia.ervin@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:cynthia.ervin@dhhs.nc.gov) or visit [www.nutritionnc.com](http://www.nutritionnc.com). Workshop and webinar training sessions are scheduled very soon, so please visit the website for more information.

**Continuation of the NSLP 2012** is approved and monitored by the NCDPI CNS and is for feeding students enrolled in a "required" academic summer school - with a grade issued upon its completion - in order for the student to be promoted to the next grade level or to receive credits to graduate. Students pay according to their "status" as during the program year: free, reduced, or paid.

**Seamless Summer Option (SSO)**, is approved and monitored by the NCDPI CNS and allows all students 18 years and younger to eat free of charge. The SSO operates under the same Federal Regulations as the NSLP. Schools wanting to participate in the SSO must apply individually via the online Child Nutrition Technology System and must be approved in advance to participate in the SSO. Schools participating in the SSO must be "area eligible". This means that a school must be 50% or greater Free / Reduced (F/R) eligible based on enrollment for the current school year. Training webinars will be advertised through McKimmon Center and in the CN Weekly Update in early March.

If you have questions, please contact Janice Ezzell by phone at 910-833-6750 or by e-mail at [Janice.ezzell@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:Janice.ezzell@dpi.nc.gov)

### **\*\*REMINDER\*\* *Deadline to Submit FF&VP Applications for 2012-2013***

For eligible elementary schools interested in applying to participate in the USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FF&VP) for SY 2012-2013, applications are due in the NCDPI Child Nutrition Services Section by **5:00 PM on Friday, March 30, 2012**. The NCDPI strongly recommends a traceable delivery source be used. Applications may be delivered to the NCDPI's physical location address (for example: FedEx or UPS), or mailed USPS to the NCDPI's mailing address, or hand delivered. (The FF&VP application packet was e-mailed on February 3, 2012 to Child Nutrition Directors as a SPECIAL EDITION CN Weekly Update and contains mailing information and addresses.) No faxed or e-mailed applications will be accepted because *original* signatures are required. No late applications will be accepted. Contact Zoe McKay-Tucker at 919-807-3517 or by e-mail at [zoe.mckaytucker@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:zoe.mckaytucker@dpi.nc.gov) with questions or concerns regarding the application. Thank you for your district's interest in applying!

### **2012 USDA Best Practice Awards**

**Apply Now for the 2012 USDA Best Practice Awards** - The Southeast Regional Office of the USDA has announced the 19th Annual **Best Practice Awards** for the National School Lunch, School Breakfast and Food Distribution Programs. The purpose of this award program is to recognize and reward outstanding practices in schools and in School Food Authorities (SFAs). We encourage you and your staff to nominate your SFA and/or individual schools within the SFA for outstanding and/or innovative practices in the following categories:

- Increasing Participation in School Lunch, Breakfast or After School Snack Programs
- Promoting a Healthy School Environment
- School Breakfast and School Lunch Week Events
- Customer Service
- Creative Utilization of Commodities
- Farm To School Programs
- Increasing Fruit and Vegetable Consumption
- Food Safety (HACCP Implementation)
- Leadership Development and Program Management
- Fiscal Management

Receiving a **USDA Best Practice Award** is a fabulous opportunity to get the local, state and national recognition your SFA's Child Nutrition Program has earned! The following items are included in the attached file:

1. 2012 USDA Best Practices Award Announcement
2. Award Entry Requirements for 2012
3. Categories for Best Practice Nominations
4. Nomination Entry Form for 2012 (including required information that must be included in the Entry)
5. Criteria upon which the Nomination will be evaluated

Nominations must be received by the Child Nutrition Services Section of the NC Department of Public Instruction **no later than March 26, 2012**. Nominations may be hand delivered, delivered by courier service or sent by another means. Please make sure the delivery method used is traceable to ensure your nomination reaches its destination by the due date.

**Good Luck!** We look forward to celebrating your success with you at the 2012 Annual Conference for Child Nutrition Administrators.

 = [bestpractices.doc](#)

## **\*\*REMINDER\*\* Nutrient Analysis Due Soon**



Please remember that your Nutrient Analysis for March menus is due on **April 15, 2012**. If you have questions or need assistance please contact your Regional SMI Consultant.

## **What's New on the Web?**

## **2012 USDA Policy Memos**

The USDA Policy Memos page has been updated and now includes an added feature. The table now includes a "Date Released" column for your convenience. The USDA Policy Memos are accessible on the Child Nutrition website via the Frequently Used Links section on the home page or by clicking on the Regulations & Policies tab.

The direct link to the 2012 Policy Memos page is: <http://childnutrition.ncpublicschools.gov/regulations-policies/usda-policy-memos/usda-policy-memos/2012>

## **Child Nutrition Weekly Updates**

The remaining 2011 and the 2012 *Child Nutrition Weekly Updates* have been added to the website. Should you need a document that accompanied any of the Updates please contact Donna Knight ([donna.knight@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:donna.knight@dpi.nc.gov)) or your Regional Consultant. The link to the Child Nutrition Weekly Updates page is: <http://childnutrition.ncpublicschools.gov/news-events/cn-weekly-updates>.

## **RECALL NOTICES**

*We are aware that the recall notifications we receive may or may not pertain to any public or charter schools in North Carolina. However, we strive to keep you as well informed as possible by posting any recalls that could potentially cause problems in your school meal programs. Please be sure to review the official recall notices at the web locations provided. Should a recall apply to items currently in your inventory, please follow the instructions provided in the recall notice.*

### **Kansas Firm Recalls Pizza Topping Products Nationwide Due to Misbranding and Undeclared Allergen**

Tyson Prepared Foods, Inc., a South Hutchinson, Kan. establishment is recalling approximately 12,060 pounds of pizza topping products because of misbranding and an undeclared allergen. The packaging identifies the products as beef, but they actually contain pork. Additionally, the pork products contain soy, a known potential allergen, which is not declared on the label.

In the event that you find this product in your inventory, please review the full recall notice at this link for details and instructions: [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News & Events/Recall\\_013\\_2012\\_Release/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News & Events/Recall_013_2012_Release/index.asp).



## Mark Your Calendar

March 2012 .....	National Nutrition Month
**March 10 (Saturday) .....	Monthly Claim for Reimbursement Due
March 14 .....	Registered Dietitian Day
March 15 (Thursday) .....	Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Claim for Reimbursement Due
March 30 .....	Deadline for submitting FF&VP Application for 2012-13 SY
April 1 .....	RCCI/Charter/Non-Public Self-Assessment Completed (File in SFA)
April 10 (Tuesday) .....	Monthly Claim for Reimbursement Due
April 15 .....	Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Claim for Reimbursement Due
April 15 (for 2012) .....	Nutrient Analysis for March Menus Due

**\*\* REMEMBER** – Anytime the 10<sup>th</sup> falls on a weekend the actual due date for the claim for reimbursement is the next business day which is usually Monday. In the event that the following Monday is a holiday then the due date moves to the next business day. With that said, the CN Technology system is programmed to flag any reimbursement submitted after the 10<sup>th</sup> with the “10 day” error message (Error Code 1401). The NCDPI Child Nutrition section and the Claims section are fully aware of this and the Claims department will automatically override that error message for any claims submitted in this time period. **NOTE:** This also applies to the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program for which the claim for reimbursement is due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.